



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Jacksonville District

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**TO: ALL NEWS AND ASSIGNMENT EDITORS AND REPORTERS**

**ANNOUNCEMENT: Media Availability Session to be held at Odyssey Middle School**

## **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to hold media availability session as work on Odyssey Middle School grounds begins**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, will hold a media availability session at Odyssey Middle School in Orlando on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of the session is to provide information on the investigative work taking place at the school, which is located on the former Pinecastle Jeep Range property, a site used in the 1940s by the Department of Defense for military demonstrations and training.

The Corps is currently working to investigate anomalies and remove munitions and metal debris from portions of the former Pinecastle Jeep Range. In August, to ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff, investigations were conducted on the school property prior to the opening of school. No items were found on the surface of the ground, and soil samples were free of munitions constituents. A temporary fence was also erected to separate the school from potential hazards on the adjacent Mockingbird, LLC property. During the Thanksgiving break, further investigation of data collected during a geophysical survey with a magnetometer, and removal of items, if necessary, will complete work on the school grounds.

The Corps' current cleanup project will address the Odyssey Middle School grounds, Tivoli Gardens subdivision and the portion of the Mockingbird, LLC property closest to the school, to ensure



continued public safety. A phased approach will address the areas of immediate concern that fell within the identified former bomb target circle areas. The rest of the Pinecastle Jeep Range site will be addressed with a Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study, scheduled for early 2008.

For more information, please contact Amanda Ellison at 904-614-2240.

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